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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/526,700	03/04/2005	Shridhar Mubaraq Mishra	1890-0207	7455
50255	7590	04/09/2008		
MAGINOT, MOOR & BECK 111 MONUMENT CIRCLE, SUITE 3000 BANK ONE CENTER/TOWER INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204			EXAMINER HICKS, MICHAEL J	
			ART UNIT 2165	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 04/09/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/526,700

Applicant(s)

MISHRA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael J. Hicks

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 March 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/13/2005
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-11 Pending.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 8-11 objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Renwel et al. (WO 02/15488 A1 and referred to hereinafter as Renwel).

As per Claims 1, 3, 5, Renwel discloses a method of comparing unmasked bits of a data key to a rule, the method including: dividing the key into chunks

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(Page 5, Line 17 – Page 6, Line 13 along with Figure 5 clearly indicate that the key is divided into chunks.), using each of the chunks to obtain a respective address to extract data from a memory (Page 5, Line 17 – Page 6, Line 13 along with the abstract clearly indicate that the chunks are used for packet classification (e.g. obtaining identified addresses to extract data from a memory).), the data stored at the address of the memory corresponding to that chunk of the key being 1 or 0 according to whether a bitwise comparison of that chunk of the data key with the mask is equal to a bitwise comparison of that chunk of the mask and rule (Page 5, Line 17 – Page 6, Line 13 clearly indicates that the rule matching is done using a bitwise comparison between the chunks and the rules (e.g. a True/False comparison).); and examining the data extracted for each of the chunks to determine if the rule is obeyed for the entire data key (Page 14, Lines 6-14 clearly indicate that the extracted data is used to determine if the rules and keys match (e.g. if the packet satisfies the rules).).

As per Claim 2, Renwel discloses the memory is structured into chunks corresponding to the chunks of the key (Page 5, Line 17 – Page 6, Line 13 along with Figure 5 clearly indicate that the memory is structured into chunks corresponding to the chunks of the key.), and the chunks being grouped into sections, the method including simultaneously for different sections of the memory successively extracting the data for the corresponding chunks within each section (Page 5, Line 17 – Page 6, Line 26 along with Figure 5 clearly indicate that chunks are grouped into sections which are matched with rules simultaneously (e.g. in parallel).).

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As per Claims 4 and 6, Renwel discloses the memory is structured two dimensionally, with a first direction corresponding to the different chunks and a second direction corresponding to the different rules of rules (Page 6, Lines 14-26 clearly indicate that the memory may be structured two dimensionally (e.g. ordered multi-dimensionally), with directions corresponding to both the different chunks and the different rules.).

As per Claim 7, Renwel discloses the memory is structured into chunks corresponding to the chunks of the key, the chunks being grouped into sections which are implemented by differing respective memory devices (Figure 5 clearly indicates that the memory may be structured such that chunks are grouped into sections which are implemented in separate memory devices.).

Points of Contact

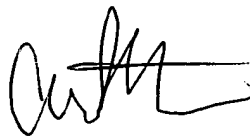
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Hicks whose telephone number is (571) 272-2670. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00a - 7:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on (571) 272-4190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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